GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2602
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2008
COMMUNAL VIOLENCE
Francis George Shri K.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing laws in the country are inadequate to deal with instances of communal violence;

(b) if so,whether the Government proposes to enact a new legislation to protect and compensate the victims of communal violence;and

(c) if so,the details thereof;

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) to (c): With a view to empowering the State Governments and the Central Government to take effective measures to provide for the prevention and control of communal violence and to rehabilitate the victims of such violence,for speedy investigation and trial of offences including imposition of enhanced punishments,than those provided in the Indian Penal Code,on persons involved in communal violence and for matters connected therewith, a Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 5.12.2005 titled 'The Communal Violence (Prevention, Control and Rehabilitation of Victims) Bill, 2005.

The Bill was referred to the Department −related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs and the Committee submitted its Report on 13.12.2006 to the Parliament.The Committee made certain observations/recommendations,and after necessary inter-Ministerial consultations,and the Government decision thereon,Notice was given on 9.3.2007 by the then Home Minister for moving the official amendments and passing of the Bill in Rajya Sabha. However, the Bill could not be taken up at that time.

Fresh notices for moving the official amendments and passing of the Bill have been given in December,2008.